Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-90-194
Friday
5 October 1990

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Cuba

CTC Plenum, Castro Examine Food Production

FL0510010090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has just arrived at the session of the fourth plenum of the CTC [Cuban Workers Federation] National Committee, which began its work today under the presidency of Pedro Ross Leal, an alternate Politburo member and CTC secretary general.

At the afternoon session, Agriculture Minister Carlos Perez said his ministry is working in several directions; for example, on the Turquino Plan, improving the tobacco crop, and building sheds for poultry production. He explained that the delay in the arrival of imported animal feeds has affected progress in these areas. He also said that the Ministry of Construction is working on 14 pig-raising complexes and is building more than 200 cattle-raising complexes.

He stressed that October is vital for the rice harvest, and that equipment must be used to the maximum. Commenting on poor results in agricultural sector, he said that the ministry is rapidly studying how to improve its system of organization and to increase wages of argicultural workers, including those involved in livestock production. He asserted that next year's results will be much better than this year's. The plenum also heard that three contingents will be formed to support agriculture in Havana and Havana City Provinces, and that Havana City will provide additional support with the mobilization of 20,000 workers.

Also at the fourth plenum, the labor leaders were briefed about preparations for the upcoming sugar harvest. Sugar Industry Minister Juan Herrera noted that the priority for this season is to continue reducing fuel consumption and to assure a good harvest. In this regard, new equipment and new chemical products, as well as biotechnological achievements, must be introduced. The basic tasks right now are cold-season planting, watering, and manual application of herbicides.

One of the solutions to the challenges of this special period is the widespread introduction of teams of oxen, which will replace tractors in planting tasks. Herrera also mentioned the need to accelerate the construction of sacharine factories and to increase the production of proteinaceous molasses as a direct contribution by the sugar workers to the food program plans.

Tomorrow the fourth plenary session of the CTC National Committee will continue with the attendence of the provincial first secretaries and representatives of outstanding unions and work centers.

Workforce To Be 'Relocated'

FL0410174690 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Telephone report by Diosdado Maso from CTC headquarters in Havana]

[Text] The status of workers who are left jobless [excedentes] because of readjustments in their labor centers or because of a shortage of raw material has attracted the attention of the delegates attending the fourth plenum of the national CTC [Cuban Workers Federation], which has been meeting since 0800 this morning in its headquarters in Havana.

Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], and Pedro Ross Leal, CTC secretary general, are also attending the meeting in which the delegates will evaluate and decide upon organizational and salary measures for the special period in peacetime.

In this regard, Francisco Linares Calvo, minister-president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security, explained that the workers that are jobless because of a shortage of raw material or because of the special period in peacetime will be relocated with 100 percent of their salaries. In the case of agriculture, those who cannot work in the fields because of health or very clearly justifiable reasons will be sent home with a full salary for the first month. Thereafter, they will receive 70 percent of their salary until they are relocated. Those who refuse to work and have no excuse or illness will be sent home with 100 percent of their salary for the first month and they will receive no further wages until work resumes in their labor centers. The labor minister said that the salaries will be respected, that there will be guarantees, and that efforts will be made so that discipline and the eight-hour work day is not affected.

The fourth plenum of the national CTC committee will meet today and tomorrow. Its agenda includes a proposal on incentives for trade union leaders and redistribution measures for trade union positions and cadres at the grass roots level.

Radio Rebelde will keep its listeners informed on the progress of this event.

Dilemma Between Austerity, Development Examined

PA0410151390 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Station commentary read by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] Ever since the triumph of the revolution, the Cuban people have been forced into difficult situations, particularly because of U.S. surveillance and the challenges normally faced during transition from capitalism to socialism.

At present, this Antillean nation is facing the most critical circumstances it has experienced since 1959,

because it no longer receives basic supplies from Eastern Europe, especially the USSR, or because it receives them on a delayed basis.

Severe austerity measures have been implemented over the past few weeks in such areas as fuel, newspapers, food, and industrial equipment. The economic emergency is obvious at a glance. The Cuban people are, nevertheless, sure of periodic access to products, resources, and services, which are made available as the result of government foresight.

It is clear that in many cases the distribution plans for certain areas do not fully meet all of the requirements, but each citizen will receive an equal amount of products to meet his basic needs in difficult times.

The conditions imposed by developed countries prevent Cuba from buying on the international market even a part of the articles that are no longer sent by our traditional suppliers in Eastern Europe. Under such adverse circumstances, the government is preparing us for even greater reductions of foreign supplies and conservation measures, energy resources in particlral, while at the same time, maintining the key development programs that guarantee the country's survival.

In other words, the sugar and (?fruit) harvests, part of the nickel production, scientific research that promises encouraging results, and tourism, among others, will receive all of the security they require to the detriment of other, nonvital areas.

A little damage to the people is inevitable, but the austerity measures are an attempt to diminish their negative effects, and especially to maintain the funds allotted for jobs and salaries. Of course, some of the workers must be relocated, especially to the farming sector, but the people's buying power, vital services, and access to basic food sources are guaranteed for the time being.

Nicaraguan Embassy Opens Book of Condolences

FL0410141690 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The Embassy of the Republic of Nicaragua in our country has opened a book of condolences because of the death of Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, member of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. The people will be able to go to that embassy located at Seventh and 14th Avenues in Miramar between 0900 and 1100, and 1400 and 1600.

Jamaica

Perez, Manley To Discuss Politics, Economics

FL0410174590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1623 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 4, CANA—The president of Venezuela, Carlos Andres Perez, will pay a brief visit to Jamaica this evening. Government officials said Perez and Prime Minister Michael Manley will hold talks on economic and political issues.

A delegation from Jamaica went to Venezuela last month to hold talks with government officials on how Jamaica might be cushioned from some of the effects of the Persian Gulf crisis that triggered oil price hikes across the globe. Jamaica gets approximately 80 percent of its oil from Mexico and Venezuela under the San Jose Accord, which offers Central American and Caribbean nations oil on concessional terms.

Trinidad and Tobago

Robinson To Ask Bush for Intelligence Help

FL0410222290 Bridgetown CANA in English 2158 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] United Nations, Oct 4, CANA—The bloody July 27 coup attempt against the Trinidad and Tobago Government could have been averted had the United States shared vital security information with Trinidadian authorities about arms purchases by members of the Jamaat al Muslimeen, Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson said here on Thursday. "I can say and it is now public knowledge that if we had had the information which was possessed by the U.S. authorities in Miami, (the coup) would have been avoided," Robinson told a news conference at the United Nations. "Information that some of the personalities involved, principal personalities, were acquiring arms in Miami."

Robinson, who has a planned meeting with President George Bush next week, said would ask the U.S. leader for assistance in securing valuable security information which fell into the hands of U.S. officials. "I am not criticizing anybody," Robinson said. "At this stage, I don't think I can criticize. I think we have got to hear the U.S. point of view and we have got to investigate, (carry out) further investigations to find out why there was not proper transmission of information to our authorities."

Robinson said that according to one published report, a key member of the attempted coup was a regular visitor to Miami and had contacts with persons who helped him to buy arms. He also said there was clear evidence of a Libyan connection with the Muslimeen rebels. Robinson expressed the hope that out of next week's talks with the U.S. President would come "more efficient arrangements for exchange of information in matters of that kind."

The Trinidadian leader's statement caught some diplomats and journalists at the U.N. by surprise. "It was an unusual statement to have come from a prime minister," said one diplomat. "It sounded to me like criticism of the U.S."

Robinson conceded there was discontent in Trinidad and Tobago brought on by his government's economic policies prior to the attempted coup which left two dozen people dead and millions of damage to property following widespread looting in Port of Spain. [sentence as

received] But he didn't say whether he would change his government's economic course as a result of the uprising and the looting.

"If you have to take measures in a situation which affect or appear to affect people adversely, there is bound to be some discontent," he said. "And in fact, there has always been discontent in Trinidad and Tobago. I am conceding clearly that there was a measure of discontent because of the measures we had to take." He contended, however, that if his government had failed to act, the situation would have been much worse and more people would have suffered.

"There would have been a total collapse of the Trinidad and Tobago economy and there would have been much greater suffering as we have seen in other countries, even neighbouring countries to Trinidad and Tobago," he added. "Anyone who looked at what's happening in developing countries today would understand that in fact in Trinidad and Tobago we have managed fairly well to avoid some of the disasters that have taken place in those countries," he added.

Turning to his country's proposal for an international court to try people accused of crimes committed across national boundaries, Robinson said the people now held in connection with the coup could not be tried by such a court. His [words indistinct], he said. However, if the court had been in place, the circumstances of the recent troubles would have made it a case for the court to consider because of the international nature of the alleged conspiracy.

Salinas, Aylwin Issue Joint Declaration

PA0410194590 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1944 GMT 3 Oct 90

[Text] Mexico City 3 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The presidents of Mexico and Chile today expressed their satisfaction with Germany's unification and the beginning of a new stage in Europe's makeup for the coming century.

Both presidents expressed confidence that the new European order "will not divert the attention or resources of industrialized nations from Latin America."

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and Chilean President Patricio Aylwin signed a joint declaration this morning after a high-level bilateral meeting. Defining their countries' position on world issues, the presidents stressed the importance of the "Initiative for the Americas" proposed by the President of the United States on 27 June.

The presidents acknowledged that the proposal conforms with a new focus on hemispheric relations, which should set in motion a process based on converging mutual interests, within a more equitable framework. They resolved to back this initiative by the various regional organizations and stressed the need to quantify its scope and content. They called for negotiations to prepare for this initiative, which will effectively boost Latin America's development, encourage growth, ease trade, decrease the foreign debt burden, and substantially increase the flow of investment.

Salinas de Gortari and Aylwin also voiced their "deep concern over the critical situation in the wake of Iraq's military invasion of Kuwait" on 2 August. They stressed their support for the UN Security Council resolutions aimed at peacefully resolving the conflict. On this point they reiterated their strong condemnation of the use of force against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of a state, as well as exit restrictions imposed on citizens from other countries.

The Mexican and Chilean presidents, hoping for a rapid and peaceful solution to the problem, stressed the need to stabilize the oil market as soon as possible. They agreed on the need to study mechanisms to reduce arms spending in the Middle East and to use these resources for economic and social development instead.

In the joint communique, both presidents expressed their satisfaction with the progress of the Central American peace process aimed at consolidating democracy in the region. They reiterated the willingness of their governments to contribute to the peace process—which is to be implemented by the security commission of the Central American countries—in accordance with the Guatemala plan and the Antigua Declaration.

The joint communique signed by the Mexican and Chilean presidents at the Los Pinos official residence states that this the first visit by a Chilean president since diplomatic relations were severed 16 years ago.

Bilateral Cooperation Agreement

PA0410173390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2345 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Mexico and Chile today signed three financial, technical, and commercial cooperation agreements with three Chilean banks, the National Foreign Trade Bank (Bancomext) has reported.

The agreements were signed during Chilean President Patricio Aylwin's visit, in the presence of Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the development bank announced in a press communique.

The agreements were signed by Bancomext President Humberto Soto Rodriguez and representatives of the South American Bank, Santander Bank, and the Foreign Trade Bank (BICI) of Chile, Bancomext reported.

The communique states that the signing of these documents implies opportunities to develop export projects which sponsor the joint participation of Mexican and Chilean enterprises, and to earn foreign currency to finance industrial projects in both countries.

The agreements also involve exchanging information on government privatization projects to study possible participation in as well as the preparation of surveys aimed at developing money markets—particularly the private social welfare systems.

Promotional activities with the private sector's participation will include bilateral exchanges and training, research, and education programs to encourage economic and commercial relations between Chile and Mexico.

The agreements are also aimed at establishing a systematic exchange of information and advice on statistic and legislative issues, and, in general, of information on the characteristics of their respective markets for products which may be of interest to both parties.

Bancomext also stated that a work development program will be established every year to coordinate cooperation between the banking institutions. The program will include specific cooperation measures and any other measures which are considered necessary to achieve the goals of the agreements.

It was reported that Bancomext has established trade advisory offices in Santiago and at the FISA-90 [Santiago Industrial Fair], and has sent trade delegations to Chile to support commercial and financial relations.

Likewise, groups of Chilean buyers visited Mexico in September and others will arrive this month. A Mexican trade delegation will visit Chile between October and November 1990, and promotional activities have been carried out to finance foreign trade.

The institution said that Mexico sold $129 million worth of automobiles, fibers, textiles, and chemicals to Chile in 1989. Meanwhile, Chile exported $45.5 million worth of fruits, legumes, fish, and tin to Mexico.

The most important Chilean projects include the construction of cars for Santiago's metro system and a joint investment to export vegetables and fruits to third markets.

The institution added that the possibility of carrying out projects such as the Trans-Cordilleran and Northern Pacific gas pipelines between Argentina and Chile, with the participation of Mexpetrol and Mexican businessmen, is also being studied.

El Salvador

FMLN Faults Cristiani's UN 'Propaganda Show'

PA0410182990 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Station commentary: "Cristiani's Show at the United Nations"]

[Text] Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani offered at the United Nations to declare a unilateral cease-fire if the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] did the same. Cristiani's conditions turn the offer into a proposal, but it is an old government proposal aimed at ending the war without solving the problems that started the war in the first place.

The proposal—let us call it that—is really not aimed at us, who have a previous commitment with the government and with the United Nations to negotiate political agreements to achieve a cease-fire. It is aimed at the U.S. Senate, which Cristiani wants to impress to obtain military aid for the war. Such a situation makes the proposal a propaganda show, to use a phrase, which civilian and government officials love to pronounce.

The trick is very simple. He wants to make the government seem flexible and willing to achieve peace immediately, and he wants to make it seem as if it all depended on the will of the FMLN. The government believes the FMLN will reject a unilateral cease-fire declaration and then the FMLN will have the appearance of being warlike, thereby softening the senators' hearts and making them hurry to approve the military aid for a government seeking peace. It is all a big show.

We cannot give the Senate's opinion, and we do not know what their reaction will be. We can categorically state, however, that we are going to respect the agreements we signed in Geneva, which state that before signing a cease-fire, both sides must reach political agreements, the topics of which are included in the Caracas agenda.

Besides the buffoonery in Cristiani's speech, however, there is also a phrase that caught our attention, which went: Peace will not come from the barrels of rifles. Such a phrase seems logical at first sight, but since we are in El Salvador, we must ask the question: Why are those rifles being fired? All Salvadorans clearly know the answer, because for decades we have suffered from a lack of democracy, militarism, and social injustice, all of which have been defended by the rifles of the Armed Forces, which fired against the people even before the guerrilla army appeared.

For Cristiani's phrase to be correct, he should have said: Peace will not only come from the silence of rifles. We believe it would be useless to silence the rifles if the system remains based on impunity, militarism, and wealth in a few hands at the expense of the misery and hunger of the large majority. It would be like [word indistinct] institutional violence in the country. That is why the Geneva Agreement states we must reach political agreements before reaching a cease-fire. Rifles will be silent and peace will come when the causes that led to war in El Salvador disappear.

Guerrillas Reportedly Detain ONUCA Delegates

PA0510044190 Paris AFP in Spanish 0348 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Oct (AFP)—A group of members of the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) were detained by the Salvadoran guerrillas near the Honduran border on 3 October, a communique issued on the night of 4 October by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) reported.

According to the FMLN communique aired by Radio Venceremos on the night of 4 October, guerrilla columns prevented the ONUCA delegates from passing through areas under guerrilla control in the country's northeastern region.

The communique, which did not specify the activities in which the UN delegates were engaged, accused the government of "risking" the lives of the foreigners, stressing that it was an "irresponsible provocation."

ONUCA mission members were detained in the area of Perquin, a zone under guerrilla control in Morazan Department, according to the FMLN report.

The observers—the FMLN communique noted—did not follow the procedure agreed upon with the United Nations, according to which any visit by ONUCA delegates to the areas of conflict or under FMLN control must be "previously coordinated" to prevent such incidents.

The rebel station did not clarify where the delegates had come from or where they headed after the incident.

Guatemala

Callejas Views Armies During Stopover

PA0310162790 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2306 GMT 26 Sep 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 26 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Guatemala and Honduras today refused to reduce the size of their armies, because "they have the smallest Armies in the region, even smaller than those established in international treaties."

In a stopover while en route to the United States, Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas said that Honduras has the smallest and least equipped Army in the region. He added that this is offset by the capability of the Honduran Air Force.

Callejas stated that during his visit to the United States he will seek to maintain the existing levels of economic aid, including for military assistance.

Callejas added that Honduras is still paying between $20 and $25 million annually for the loan it received from the United States to purchase a fleet of F-5 planes and to defray expenses for spare parts.

Callejas said that Honduras is trying to reach an agreement with the United States so that the F-5 planes are used to intercept drug shipments, as part of the narcotics struggle, by taking advantage of a radar system that the United States installed in Puerto Trujillo.

Guatemalan Army Spokesman Colonel Carlos Duran meanwhile reiterated today that the number of soldiers in his country is less than that established by international agreements.

According to international agreements, Col. Duran added, the Armed Forces of any country should be made up of only 1 percent of its total population. In Guatemala, which has a population of 9,000,000, the Army has approximately 43,000 members, which represents a little less than .50 percent of the population.

"Guatemala cannot afford to reduce the size of its Army. It would be more convenient to speak of a reorganization of the Army staff to improve its efficiency," Col. Duran reported.

Col. Duran said that the Army could transfer greater numbers of soldiers to the areas of conflict in Guatemala—namely, the central, northern, and northwestern regions.

Honduras

Economy Minister Discusses Fuel, Energy Measures

PA0510004190 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Speech by Economy and Commerce Minister Ramon Medina Luna in Tegucigalpa—live]

[Text] I am addressing you on behalf of the Honduran Government to tell you about something that is of concern to all of us because of the situation in the Persian Gulf and the impact that the crisis has had on hydrocarbon prices. We are sorry to have to break this type of news to you, because it will harm the economy of all Hondurans as it has affected the world's economy. The reason we are increasing fuel prices results from the exaggerated increase in international oil prices. We have all seen this increase since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on 2 August.

I want to note that at the OPEC meeting of 27 July, the member countries decided to increase oil prices from $21 to $25 dollars per barrel, which represented a significant increase over the $17 dollars per barrel that we had been paying up until that day. Since the crisis began, exactly 61 days ago, prices that had been previously agreed to have become invalid and oil prices have increased continuously, rising to over $40 per barrel. Before changing the oil prices in our country, President Callejas waited to see what the outcome of the Persian Gulf situation would be. To cover the additional costs of the oil bill, the government, therefore, used the oil reserve fund on 4 September. The government used 42.5 million lempiras. Since then, the government has been absorbing the loss of 1.8 million lempiras per day.

It is appropriate to mention that most of the countries in the world, including the other Central American area countries, have carried out adjustments in their fuel price list. Honduras, not being an oil-producing country, is subject to the same pressures caused by the Persian Gulf crisis, and it is also compelled to review its current list of fuel prices. This is, of course, a provisional measure, and the government hopes that once the Persian Gulf crisis is solved there will be a reduction in the price of international oil, thus allowing a reduction in the new price list. On various occasions, it has been said that the government obtains extraordinary profits from the sale of the oil which we import. To this, we say that the taxes paid for oil imports in Honduras are among the lowest in the world.

In countries like Italy, oil taxes are $3.31 per gallon. The other extreme is the United States, where the oil tax is 26 cents per gallon. The oil tax in Honduras is equivalent to that in the United States. We use that tax to subsidize urban public transportation, which, before the most recent oil price increase, amounted to 25 million lempiras. The transportation subsidy is expected to increase to almost 50 million lempiras now. We also used the oil tax to pay other subsidies that otherwise would be paid with fiscal revenues.

Given the increase in international oil prices, a study on increasing fuel prices calls for the increases to be extremely high. The first estimate on the price of premium gasoline was 18.51 lempiras per gallon, because we were trying to make gasoline prices absorb the increase in diesel prices. That price was rejected, so we agreed that the diesel price also had to be increased to approach its real market price.

In the same vein, the National Congress has approved a five-percent customs tariff reduction for oil. Although this is a reduction in fiscal revenues, it also helps us to alleviate the impact that the increase in international oil prices will have on the country. The government has, therefore, agreed on new prices, and according to these prices, premium and regular gasoline prices are to be fixed at 13.32 lempiras per gallon for premium and 11.96 lempiras per gallon for regular.

President Callejas thinks that these prices are still too high, and that they should be reduced to a level that is more in line with the social expectations of the country. These reasons illustrate why the government has decided

to partially assume the increase in fuel prices. By debiting fiscal revenues, the government will subsidize some of the petroleum by-products, resulting in premium gasoline at 11.32 lempiras; regular gasoline at 9.96 lempiras; kerosene at 2.97 lempiras; diesel fuel at 6.94 lempiras; AV Jet fuel at 12.58 lempiras; bunker fuel, type (c), at 3.58 lempiras, and other types of bunker fuel at 5.86 lempiras. The prices in other parts of the nation where there is less consumption will be listed in communiques in the local press starting tomorrow.

Regarding the price structure, I would like to say first that the prices have been based on an international price of $25 per barrel of crude, imported from Mexico and Venezuela, and an average of $44.73 for refined oil, resulting in an average purchasing price of $29.86 [number as heard]. Second, the 25-percent subsidy for diesel and 100-percent for kerosene is implicitly included in the price of gasoline. The decision was made not to increase kerosene prices, because the poor sectors would be most affected. Third, the government will continue to subsidize urban transportation to avoid increasing tariffs. Fourth, we want to say that the current prices will remain in effect as long as we are importing crude and refined oil at the current prices.

To assure the consumer, the government will report on the prices of imported oil on a regular basis. This means that we might be forced to increase prices again on very short notice. We hope that if the trend of the last few days continues on the international oil market, we will be able to report a reduction in fuel prices. The increase which we are communicating today is unavoidable, given that since September we have been importing oil at an average of $40 per barrel.

We also want to report that, since the pumps at the gas stations are not designed to register amounts greater than 9.99 lempiras per gallon, and that since the new price of premium gasoline is greater than that, only half of the price owed by the buyer will show up on the pump. The driver must, therefore, multiply the price by two to obtain the total amount owed. A sign will be placed at each pump indicating this.

To conclude, we want to say that in view of the significant problems surrounding the petroleum prices, President Callejas' government wants to put into effect, as soon as possible, some measures that will increase energy conservation. Some of these measures are as follows.

First, state-owned vehicles can only be used two days a week. To stop the abuses committed against this order, special permits which allowed these vehicles to circulate freely will be rescinded. Second, in Tegucigalpa, vehicles will not be allowed to enter the downtown area. We are also planning to schedule garbage collection from 1900 to 0600 to clear vehicular congestion. We are also planning to increase the number of taxi depots so that they will not contribute to traffic congestation while they are searching for passengers. Parking cars along streets and avenues with urban buses will be banned. We will enforce the regulation that buses must park at designated stops only.

Third, a maximum speed limit of 80 kilometers will be strictly enforced on highways. Fourth, in all major cities, every state institution will be compelled to announce, at least with one day's notice, the closing of streets and avenues for repairs, maintenance, parades, national celebrations, or for other reasons. Fifth, a study will be conducted on closing gas stations on Sundays, and opening them for business from 0600 to 2200 for the rest of the week. Sixth, purchasing state vehicles will be banned, without impairing the implementation of specific development projects. Seven, bus schedules for the entire inter-urban service are to be regulated, and wherever necessary, new terminals will be relocated or opened. Eight, a publicity campaign will be launched on reducing fuel consumption.

Fellow countrymen, on behalf of the Honduran Government, we are grateful for your attention and hope you will understand this decision was made because of developments in the Persian Gulf. We reaffirm our commitment to make these price increases temporary and ask your cooperation in lowering fuel consumption. Good evening, and thank you for your attention.

Nicaragua

Chamorro Discusses UN Trip, Foreign Aid

PA0410215890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Oct 90

[News conference by President Violeta de Chamorro upon her return from the United Nations with unidentified reporters in the Blue Room at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport in Managua—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Reporter] Mrs. Chamorro, can you tell us the results of the meetings in New York? In your opinion, what was the greatest achievement?

[Chamorro] Well, first, I think that having all the presidents support us was a positive aspect. We will bring democracy to its feet in our homeland in the same manner that we disposed of the weapons. On the other hand, I want to tell you that many countries have offered to help us as much as their own resources will allow. We, however, must be prepared. I also met with President Bush, who spent 15 minutes with every president. He said that he is always willing to help. He said that he will come to Nicaragua soon.

I asked him to, in addition to the $300 million that he has offered us [changes thought] I told him that $300 million was not enough, and I asked him to search his heart to find other ways to help us. He said that he would talk with the Congress. You know that he cannot simply decide things by himself. In Nicaragua things have to be

jointly approved by what we call the National Assembly. I believe that because the U.S. Congress is democratic, they will help us.

The same goes for Mexican President Carlos Salinas. He will support us on the oil issue, despite the critical problem that the world is facing, given the possibility of a war, which, God willing, will not occur. A war would affect the entire world. I am talking about the oil issue.

On the other hand, I met with Carlos Andres Perez. I also met with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. I met with King Baudouin. I also met with Cardinal O'Connor. The first thing he asked about was our cardinal, and I told him that our cardinal was well. I asked him not to forget us because we need a cathedral.

Furthermore, I want to tell you that our country is heavily indebted. We received an inheritance that no other country has received. What could I say to all the friendly presidents with whom I met, knowing that our country owes most of them? I asked each president how much the country owed his country, what arrangements for payment could be made, and how much time we had to pay. These issues must be discussed, but it should be done through a national dialogue.

We all must participate so that we can put the country on its feet and pay what we owe. We cannot live in debt. The whole world knows that we do not want war.

In my address to the United Nations, which I hope you read, I said that we had buried weapons and ....[changes thought] that the country is a democratic place and no one talks about buying rifles or anything like that. Everyone talks instead about changing things and achieving democracy and stability throughout the entire country. Thank you. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Mrs. President, can you give more details about the offers for aid or oil supplies?

[Chamorro] Excuse me, there is an echo in here, and I cannot hear you very well.

[Reporter] Mrs. President, can you give us specific details about the offers you received for financial aid and credit? Which governments made offers and when would the money arrive in Nicaragua?

[Chamorro] First, one of the most important people that I talked to is our friend Foreign Affairs Minister Shevardnadze. I told him that one of our greatest worries is the number of tanks in the country. Since those tanks came from the Soviet Union, I said, I want you to ask your president about them, because if we sell them, we can help in the health sector; we can help rebuild our homeland; and we can build houses. He immediately told his secretary to take notes on what I said. I liked that. He also said that his country would continue to help us with oil as much as they could.

Nicaragua is not the only country today where people can sit and talk. Today, 4 October, the two Germanys are reunited and everyone is shaking hands. They are celebrating freedom and unity. The same thing is happening in the Soviet Union and many other countries that had different ideologies. This thing, therefore, about the aid....[changes thought] If we behave ourselves and the whole world sees that the Nicaraguans are united, Nicaragua will be rebuilt soon. If we fight among ourselves, however, and there is no unity in a small country with a population of 3.5 million, who knows what will happen. [applause]

Members of Joint Commission With FNT Appointed

PA0410175290 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Communique issued by the Presidency Ministry's Information and Press Directorate in Managua on 3 October]

[Text] The Nicaraguan people are advised of the following:

That in keeping with a commitment acquired by the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua to establish a joint commission with the National Workers Front, FNT, which will discuss and deal with all pending provisions pertaining to the agreements signed between the FNT and the government, Labor Minister Dr. Francisco Rosales Arguello, who will head the commission, Deputy Economy and Development Minister (Deisa Caldera), and Deputy Finance Minister Leonel Rodriguez have been appointed as the Nicaraguan Government representatives to the joint commission. The Presidency Ministry will wait for the appointment of the three FNT representatives to the joint commission, but urges the commission to start work at the Labor Ministry offices on Monday, 8 October 1990, at a time to be agreed upon by the commission members.

Issued in Managua on 3 October 1990.

Panama

Human Rights Group Demands Invasion Compensation

PA0510041890 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] During its third national assembly, the National Committee for the Defense of Human Rights (Conadehupa) resolved to demand that Panamanian authorities investigate all accusations made regarding the U.S. invasion of Panama and that the authorities issue a detailed report on the damages to determine the margin of responsibility.

Olga Mejia, president of the organization, stated that this group has decided to claim compensation from the United States for damages and loss of human lives during and after the invasion of Panama.

The document demands that the United States immediately end its military occupation in the national territory

and stop using Panama as a zone for military training, spying, and other actions which threaten regional peace and security.

The document also condemns the privatization policy, based on the fact that this process is detrimental to the living standards of the Panamanians. The document demands social policies that guarantee the right to health care, social well-being, a good education, and respect for workers' rights.

Another item in the document makes reference to the Channel Five Television Clause (February 1988). It states that this was a violation of the workers rights in that company and that Panamanian authorities should pay compensation to those involved.

To conclude, the document says that the Catholic Church should define its position on this case and that the communications associations of Panama should show their solidarity with the employees of Panavision Television, Channel Five, so that they are paid what is due to them.

Argentina

Sacked Presidential Adviser Departs for Iraq

PY0410154690 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1246 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Oct (DYN)—Former presidential adviser Alberto Samid has traveled to Iraq to meet with Saddam Husayn, that country's head of state.

Spokesmen of the former presidential adviser and provincial deputy have stated that Samid aspires "to learn about the situation in the Persian Gulf," and that his visit "is of goodwill and seeks clarification regarding the position of Argentines involved in that conflict." [passage omitted]

Radicals Issue Notes on Persian Gulf, Economy

PY0510010090 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Oct 90 p 11

[Excerpt] (NA-DYN)—The Radical National Committee issued a joint statement endorsed by all internal sectors stating that "even the most drastic economic policies applied by some dictatorships showed more social sensitivity" than those of President Carlos Menem's government.

The main opposition also expressed its opinion against the despatch of troops to the Persian Gulf without authorization from Congress, describing the measure as "a serious and inadmissible violation of the principles governing civilized co-existence between nations."

The Radical leadership issued two more documents, one on the country's "scientific and technological crisis" and the other on German unity. The four documents were signed by the committee chairman, ex-President Raul Alfonsin, and delegates from all provincial committees. [passage omitted]

Mexico's Salinas, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas To Visit

PY0510020890 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2202 GMT 2 Oct 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Oct (NA)—Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari will arrive in our country on 5 October at 1900 for a three-day visit during which he will sign important trade agreements with President Carlos Menem.

Salinas de Gortari and the Argentine head of state will visit Iguazu on 6 October and Salinas de Gortari will hold a news conference at the Alvear Hotel the next day. The news conference is being sponsored by the CARI [Argentine Council for International Relations]. The Mexican head of state's visit is part of a tour he will make through Latin American countries in the Southern Cone.

Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, leader of the Mexican Party of the Democratic Revolution, will hold a news conference on 4 October and meet with members of the Call for National Transformation [Convocatoria para la Transformacion Nacional], the deputies that make up the [Argentine] Group of Eight, the Intransigent Party [PI], and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC].

The meeting between the leader of Salinas de Gortari's political opposition and the center-left sectors will take place at 1400 at the South Foundation offices at 449 Cochabamba Street in this capital. They will review adjustment policies in Latin America, their social impact, and Latin America's prospects for economic development at the end of the so-called "lost decade."

The meeting will be attended by [Argentine Agrarian Federation President] Humberto Volando; [former PDC President] Carlos Auyero; [Popular Socialist Party Deputy] Guillermo Estevez Boero; [PI Deputy] Miguel Monserrat; Raul Dellepiane; Juan Pablo Cakiero; [Communist Party of Argentina leader] Carlos "Chacho" Alvarez; Luis Brunati; German Abdala [State Workers Association secretary general]; [Justicialist Party Deputy] Franco Caviglia; Moises Fontepe; Rene Irurzun; Augusto Conte; Dario Alessandro; [PDC Deputy] Angel Bruno; and [Peronist Deputy] Jose Carlos Ramos, among others.

Bolivia

Dismissal of Armed Forces Commanders Viewed

PY0410203590

[Editorial Report] La Paz PRESENCIA and EL DIARIO in Spanish from 25 to 29 September carry a variety of reports on alleged pressure from within the military for the removal of the Bolivian defense minister and Army commander, rumors which were denied by government officials.

On 25 September PRESENCIA carries on page 5 a 450-word article reporting that the Armed Forces command is evaluating an alleged attempted uprising to remove Army Commander General Rolando Espinoza Lora. "An official report read by this newspaper states that the Armed Forces command is meeting to analyze the origin of the rumors, which may indicate the beginning of an attempt at 'insubordination by some Army officers.'" The article continues: "Last weekend a local newspaper, citing 'a strictly confidential document,' revealed a plot against the current Army commander, who is accused of 'discrediting the Armed Forces.' "Other sources consulted by the newspaper think that such an attempt may be the result of "a questioning of the current Army commander for not having prepared a full report about the project on the 50-km security strip along the national border that is being discussed in the Chamber of Deputies."

On 26 September the same newspaper carries a 550-word article on page 4 citing congressmen's statements on the subject. Senator Carlos Farah Aquim, president of the Senate Defense Committee, downplays the report on the alleged attempt to remove Gen. Espinoza. He says he requested that the Armed Forces command reveal the

names of the officers who are allegedly exerting this pressure so that his committee could investigate the matter. The same article carries statements by Deputy Reynaldo Vasquez, president of the Chamber of Deputies Defense Committee, who says that his committee "rejects any such alleged movement" against the Army commander because "the Armed Forces may not question anything" and "must be obedient." He adds that "if such a protest among the officers is verified, those responsible will be punished."

On 28 September the same newspaper carries a 550-word article which states that after a meeting between Army Commander Gen. Espinoza and the Senate Defense Committee, the Army command ordered an investigation into the origin of the anonymous documents that requested that Gen. Espinoza be relieved from his post. Gen. Espinoza downplayed the importance of such documents because they are "anonymous" and because "such rumors are normal at this time of the year, when the Army command is considering military promotions."

The same edition of the newspaper carries a 100-word article on page 1 of section two stating that Armed Forces Commander General Jorge Moreira has said that the Armed Forces "is capable of permanently safeguarding the 50-km security strip along the national border," a subject that Gen. Espinoza allegedly did not want report on.

On 28 September EL DIARIO carries a 400-word article on page 3 citing Defense Minister Hector Ormachea as denying "any unrest in the Army and labeling such rumors as fabrications by political agitators with the purpose of creating friction within the Armed Forces."

On 29 September PRESENCIA carries on page 12 a 550-word article stating: "Fides News Agency, ANF, confirms its report about a military group that is demanding the resignation of Defense Minister Hector Ormachea Penaranda." It adds: "This news agency sustains that its sources are reliable;" however, when hearing about this ANF report, Defense Under Secretary General Rolando Arzabe said: "I reject this information; I imagine it must be some kind of political speculation aimed at creating unrest among the military men and the population."

The same edition of the newspaper on page 1 of section two carries a 300-word article reporting that during a ceremony to commemorate the anniversary of the Engineering Battalion headquartered in Lajastambo, Chuquisaca Department, Army Commander Gen. Espinoza said: "The Armed Forces require a decentralized budget for the Defense Ministry and the autonomy to allow the Army to administrate its funds." Asked about the alleged petition for his removal by some military units, "Gen. Espinoza declined to comment on this request because, he said, he is not familiar with the contents of the alleged petition made by several military units."

Deputy on Irregularities in Antidrug Operation

PY0410164490 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 29 Sep 90 p 6

[Text] Socialist Deputy German Gutierrez Gantier, on 28 September, charged that irregularities occurred during the antidrug operation conducted in Santa Cruz. Approximately 70 DEA [Drug Enforcement Administration] agents and personnel from the Antinarcotics Forces participated in the operation.

Gutierrez said: "We are concerned because DEA agents rather than Bolivian officials are making very important decisions in the absence of the Interior Minister and the Social Under Secretary, who have traveled abroad." He also reported that approximately 70 DEA agents participated in the antidrug operation in Santa Cruz "coincidentally just after one of them was wounded in the Chapare region by alleged drug traffickers."

Gutierrez explained that national sovereignty is seriously violated because the antidrug struggle is not being led by Bolivian officials or organizations.

He added: "The antidrug struggle is not being headed or controlled by the government. On the contrary, international organizations that should not be involved in these activities are making decisions and taking revenge."

Gutierrez made it clear that the operation could have been carried out in revenge, "considering a DEA agent was wounded in the Chapare region as a result of these officials' meddling in domestic affairs and because they destroyed roads as if they were in their own countries."

Gutierrez reported that $250,000 was seized during the operation in Santa Cruz, while the press reported that only $100,000 was confiscated. "This mean that the level of corruption among DEA agents is as bad or worse than that in local sectors." This charge, however, has yet to be proven.

Interior Minister Returns From France, Spain

PY0510022390 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco has returned to the country after visiting Spain and France. Speaking to the media, he said that the Spanish interior minister in Madrid made the first disbursement of a loan for the installation of the Sole National Tax Registry system.

[Begin Capobianco recording] We also received a donation of a large number of vehicles to implement the citizen security and protection program. The 100 vehicles will arrive in two shipments, and the first will be here in a month at the latest. [end recording]

As for his visit to France, Minister Capobianco said he met with Interior Ministry advisers to set the bases for future bilateral cooperation.

[Begin Capobianco recording] There is a possibility of achieving cooperation in the fields of communications, transportation, and training in information and intelligence. [end recording]

Brazil

Hostages Arrive; Relations Said 'Eroded'

PY0410132690 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Report by Carlos Alberto from the Brasilia International Airport]

[Text] Some of the Brazilians who have been held in Iraq arrived back in Brazil early this morning. An Iraqi Airways Boeing 747 landed at the Brasilia airport at exactly 0452 this morning.

Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek immediately went onto the runway, welcomed the Brazilians, and then spoke with the press. He said that the government is now concerned about speedily obtaining the release of 82 Mendes Junior Company employees who remain in Iraq. Rezek said that he hopes that this question will be solved by Saturday [6 October].

Concerning Brazil's relations with Iraq, based on a general assessment of the events, Minister Rezek admitted that they have been eroded.

[Begin Rezek recording] Our relations with Iraq have obviously been eroded; however, our main goal is to resolve everything satisfactorily. We must try to conclude this episode as best we can. We must try to forget this erosion and try to forget the effort and the work put in by so many Brazilians in different spheres of work. [end recording]

Right now, 120 Mendes Junior Company employees are boarding a charter airplane bound for Belo Horizonte. Twenty-one (?Roupe) employees and 18 Volkswagen employees will travel to Sao Paulo aboard a TAM [Military Air Transport] airplane. Fourteen Maxim employees who are staying at the (Nahum) Hotel in Brasilia will board a Varig [Rio Grande do Sul Airline] flight at 1415, bound for Porto Alegre.

Iraqi Plane To Return to Baghdad Empty

PY0410181290 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Reporter] Is the Iraqi Government subjecting the departure of the Brazilians who remain in Iraq to the condition that this airplane, which brought some Brazilians today, returns loaded with food?

[Itamaraty spokesman Jose Vicente Pimentel] No. The airplane will return empty because the Brazilian Government will faithfully observe the UN Security Council's resolutions on this matter. [end recording]

Navy Minister on Sending Troops to Persian Gulf

PY0410142690 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Oct 90 p A-13

[Report by Vale do Paraiba correspondent Ricardo Julio]

[Text] Brazil has admitted that it may send troops to the Persian Gulf, depending on the development of the events, to participate in the UN "peacekeeping force." Navy Minister Admiral Mario Cesar Flores made this announcement on Friday [28 September] to a group of War College students in Sao Jose dos Campos (Sao Paulo State).

While in New York last weekend, President Fernando Collor de Mello ruled out this possibility.

"If there was a UN force under a single command that solicited the participation of Brazil, we could not refuse," Flores said. If Brazil is to participate, he said, this force should not be ostentatious like the one in which Brazil participated that occupied the Suez Canal in Egypt.

According to Flores, currently there is "pandemonium among the commanders" in the Gulf. In his opinion, this is detrimental to the combat operation. The minister understands that the participation of Argentina is "merely symbolic." In military terms, he said, the Argentine troops "are of no use for anything" in the Gulf. In combat operations, he said, the Argentines "would just create confusion."

Flores said that Argentina enjoyed a "very good" Navy re-equipment program in the early 1970's, a program that "was halted by the State's economic failure."

According to the minister, Argentina even took the lead before Brazil in building a sophisticated frigate capable of defending itself against air attacks. Yet, concerning defense equipment, the two countries "are very badly off" and as such they "must be friends."

New Power Structure Proposed for Nuclear Sector

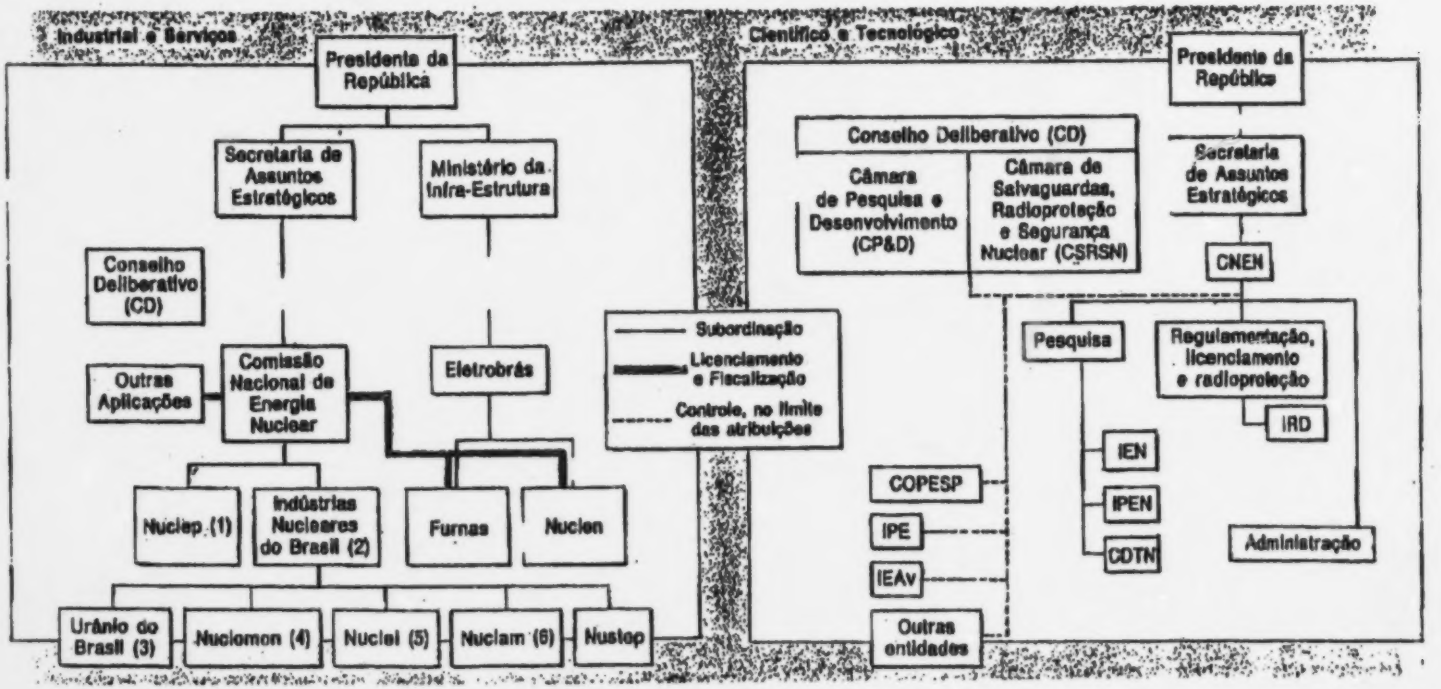
PY0310142590 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 Sep 90 p 58

["New Distribution of Power and Responsibilities Recommended for the Nuclear Sector"—O GLOBO headline]

[Text] The work group of Pronen [National Nuclear Energy Program] has recommended to President Fernando Collor a new managerial model that can guarantee civilian control over the nuclear sector. A major organ in this structure is the Deliberating Council [Conselho Deliberativo], which is made up of the Chamber of Research and Development [Camera de Pesquisa e Desenvolvimento] and the Chamber of Safeguards, Radioprotection, and Nuclear Safety [Camera de Salvaguardas, Radioprotecao e Segurancia Nuclear]. The influence of civilians, however, will depend on the composition of these chambers.

A nova distribuição de poder e responsabilidades propostas para o setor

O Grupo de Trabalho do Pronen está propondo ao Presidente Collor um novo modelo administrativo que garanta o controle civil das atividades nucleares. Nele, se destaca o Conselho Deliberativo, dividido em Câmara de Pesquisa e Desenvolvimento e Câmara de Salvaguardas, Radioproteção e Segurança Nuclear. A composição destas câmaras, porém, é que dará a medida do controle civil.



Chile

Aylwin Returns From Tour of U.S., Mexico

PY0410192890 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin today returned from his 10-day tour of the United States, Ecuador, and Mexico. The Chilean Air Force presidential plane landed in Santiago at 1317 and the chief of state was met at the foot of the stairway by Interior Minister Enrique Krauss.

Aylwin received military honors and was welcomed by the presidential Cabinet and the commanders in chief of the Armed Forces and the Carabineros. Among those attending were Navy Commander Admiral Jorge Martinez Busch, Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange, Air Force Commander General Fernando Matthei, and Army Deputy Commander General Jorge Lucar.

Once inside the VIP hall President Aylwin signed a decree to reassume the Presidency of the Republic. President Aylwin then went home to rest a few hours before greeting the people of Santiago from the balcony of La Moneda Palace, as is traditional for all democratic Chilean presidents after a tour abroad.

Colombia

Guerrilla Factions Reportedly To Merge

PA0410194490 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1840 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Bogota, 4 Oct (NOTIMEX)—It was reported here today that the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the Army of National Liberation (ELN), the two main Colombian guerrilla groups, will merge in one single rebel army.

The Colombian newspaper EL TIEMPO stressed that a dissident faction of the Popular Liberation Army (EPL), which did not participate in the peace talks with President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo's government, will also join the new rebel army.

According to military sources, the fusion of the Colombian guerrilla movement was decided during the summit of commanders of the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board held between 17 and 25 September to mark the first month of the death of commander "Jacobo Arenas."

According to the report, "the meeting of the guerrilla commanders also resulted in what the Colombian intelligence services feared so much: the appointment of former Spanish priest Manuel Perez as the leader of the entire rebel movement."

The Colombian Armed Forces have repeatedly described Perez as "public enemy number one," even placing him before the drug lords. The Armed Forces have offered up to $200,000—over 100 million pesos—in a cash reward for him.

With the merger, the movement's military machine will be composed of all FARC fronts (some 60, with almost 6,000 men), 22 ELN columns (some 2,000 men) and almost 100 guerrillas from the almost extinct EPL.

The figures do not include the thousands of assistants that these organizations have in rural and urban areas.

The death of "Jacobo Arenas" in mid-August, the newspaper said, accelerated the merging process, which began last April when Alfonso Cano—second in command of the FARC—met with top ELN leader Manuel Perez, a former priest.

According to EL TIEMPO, the basic agreement for the military unity has already been reached, and what follows now is the process on the implementation of the pact, "which consists of the creation of a single line of command, which will have the authority to order all columns, fronts, units, and assistants of the three organizations on the actions to be carried out."

Foreign Minister Jaramillo Interviewed on Policy

PA0510034190 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Sep 90 p3A

[Interview with Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo Correa by Patricia Lara; place and date not given]

[Text] [Lara] Has there been any change in our international policy?

[Jaramillo] Colombia has not changed its basic principles: its adherence to international law, political pluralism, nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states, peaceful solution of conflicts, respect for peoples' self-determination, and human rights. There are no radical changes. We will have an open policy of great pluralism. We want to strengthen our relations with all those contries that are important to us so that we can open new markets and internationalize our economy.

[Lara] EL TIEMPO criticized the policy of former Foreign Minister Londono and questioned Colombia's position at the United Nations: its vote regarding human rights in Cuba, on Libya, etc. Will you follow the same line?

[Jaramillo] I would not call that a political line. Those were decisions that were made to present a series of problems to the United Nations for its consideration. Regarding Cuba, a group of nations, specifically from Latin America, gave that country the opportunity to defend its position on human rights. I would have to review each case individually. I cannot take a position. There are other decisions adopted by the previous government—such as establishing relations with a number

of countries, among them North Korea—which are positive. Colombia should maintain commercial and pluralist relations with all countries in the international community.

[Lara] In other words, there have been no changes in the instructions given to Ambassador Penalosa?

[Jaramillo] We issue instructions daily; however, one thing must be clear: the current policy is to maintain a very independent line in our international relations. We are subject to no one, and no one means no one. Recently we disagreed with some U.S. positions because of the repercussions they may have. For example, the Haitian president asked the United Nations for technical cooperation in its elections this year. The Haitian president asked for advice in organizing the Army and police to guarantee fair elections and to prevent the participation of those institutions in the manipulation of the elections. Colombia has always contended that this topic should be discussed by the General Assembly, the UN political body in which all votes are equal. The United States has defended the thesis that since it involves advice for the Army and police, it is a security matter and therefore must be handled by the UN Security Council, where the United States has veto power. We have different opinions here, and we will not yield.

We also have different views regarding El Salvador. Colombia does not want limitations imposed on the UN Secretary General's mandate in the search for peace between the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] and the Salvadoran government. Colombia feels that the resolution supported by the United States contains terms that contribute little to the peace process and that it is not advisable to discuss the resolution at the United Nations. It seems that the Colombian stance was well received.

[Lara] Has the cost of last year's war on drugs been estimated? Has the aid from the United States and the EEC been added up?

[Jaramillo] The previous government estimated that the real damage was one billion [no currency given], and the amount of aid has been very small. The EEC told Colombia it would reduce tariffs on Colombian products at the European market and take Colombia out of the EEC quota system; however, when that initiative—which Colombia did not request—reached the technical level, it ran into problems. France, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom were opposed to it because they felt that any advantage that Colombia might receive would affect their former colonies.

That is totally absurd since the idea is not to place Colombia at the level of the poorest countries of the world—meaning the former European colonies—but to recognize our great effort. This has been a complex point because once again it is being demonstrated that there is no political commitment to help Colombia, and that, in the end, the country must make this effort alone. The direct aid that Colombia is receiving is so small and has so many conditions attached to it that it really is not worth the bother. The only sensible and useful decision is to allow us to participate freely, without obstacles, in commercial exchanges.

[Lara] What stance will Colombia adopt regarding the Nonaligned Movement [NAM]?

[Jaramillo] We first have to know what shift the NAM will take. On 4 October, we will meet in New York. The agenda includes seeking a raison d'etre for the NAM since many of the causes that justified the movement's existence disappeared with the East - West detente. Everything seems to indicate the North - South approach still stands, chiefly on the topics of economic cooperation. In keeping with its true tenets, the NAM may possibly turn into the South Group, and Colombia will have to participate.

[Lara] Cuba is perhaps the only orthodox socialist country in the world. What is the Colombian stance on this matter?

[Jaramillo] Cuba's situation will have to evolve because it will not be able to remain isolated from the rest of the world. It is said that that country has lost a great deal of Soviet economic support and this must affect its domestic policies. I hope all this will produce a political evolution.

[Lara] A radical change took place in Nicaragua with the election of President Violeta Chamorro. Before that election, an important part of Latin American politics centered around the Central American conflict and sought to attain the right to self-determination. Now that conflict does not exist, except in El Salvador. Along with perestroyka and the changes that have taken place in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union is practically no longer the rival of the United States. In others words, the bogey man is gone, as it is said to children, and the bogey man was useful to Latin America. How do you think all those changes will affect us?

[Jaramillo] Those changes could be unfavorable to Latin America, not only from a political perspective but also from an economic point of view. We have also begun to notice the effects of the breaking of the balance between the East and the West. I hope those signs of arrogance, with which the United States has traditionally handled its foreign policy, are not permanent.

[Lara] What are those signs?

[Jaramillo] The invasion of Panama and the way in which the Persian Gulf crisis is being handled are some of those signs. Without thinking of anything else, the United States sent its troops there and occupied Saudi Arabia. Forums such as the United Nations are concerned about that attitude of the United States.

[Lara] What is happening in the dispute with Venezuela?

[Jaramillo] Regarding Venezuela, two important things occurred under the previous Colombian Government:

the relationship with Venezuela was broadened and less attention was given to the Gulf issue. Although it is a very important topic, is not the only one in which the two countries are interested. Thus, the negotiating and neighboring commissions have discussed other points of interest. That is important.

[Lara] Some people think Venezuela is only interested in pulling our leg and not in solving the quarrel. Are we not falling into Venezuela's trap?

[Jaramillo] From my meetings with Venezuelan officials, I can assure you that Venezuela wants to solve the quarrel.

[Lara] But if it were interested in solving it, it would agree to using the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

[Jaramillo] This has become a principle in Venezuela's foreign policy. Venezuela refuses to solve its conflicts through any channel other than direct dialogue.

[Lara] Former Ambassador Vasco declared that the Gulf is vital to Venezuela. How did his declarations affect the possibilities of applying the Treaty of 1939, which says that conflicts can be settled at the International Court of Justice at the Hague, if the conflict is not vital to one of the parties?

[Jaramillo] The impact of his declarations has not yet been fully determined. President Barco and Foreign Minister Londono have clearly stated that only the president and the foreign minister can determine Colombian foreign policy. The important thing is to advance the process. We have obtained very favorable results until now. Relations between Colombia and Venezuela are better than they have been for many years. Positive actions are being taken at the border. Advances are being made in many aspects of border integration. All this helps strengthen relations between the two countries. Colombia regards its political and economic relationship with Venezuela as perhaps its most important. Of course, we still have a long way to go. We are working on it.

[Lara] How are relations between Colombia and Panama?

[Jaramillo] Cold, normal... [Friamente, normales...]

'Confidential' Document on Strategy of Cartel

PA0510014990 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] This news program received information today about a confidential document issued by state security organizations. This document reports that the Medellin Cartel has changed its strategy and explains the participation of the cartel in recent kidnapping operations against journalists.

This document explains the mechanisms that the cartel uses to pressure the government into suspending the extraditions and granting political-military treatment to The Extraditables.

According to the confidential report prepared by state intelligence organizations, the Medellin Cartel has been restructured and now has a political branch, composed of the extraditables; and an armed branch, composed of groups of assassins and, lately, of National Liberation Army [ELN] guerrillas. The armed branch, according to the report, is responsible for kidnappings, assassinations, and terrorist activities.

The document reports that the cartel wants to pressure the government into engaging in a dialogue in order to suspend the extraditions and grant assurance that The Extraditables will be treated as members of a political - military organization.

The document reports that the cartel now has a new operational method. Its tactic is, first, not to acknowledge kidnapping operations in order to create uncertainty. This is the case of journalists Francisco Saltos and Ana Turbay and their Criso! newscast team and of the sister of German Montoya.

Second, the cartel sends anonymous messages and then denies having delivered any messages. This was the case of Caliche, an alleged Cartel de Medellin informer.

Third, the cartel is trying to generate indirect pressure in favor of conditions for establishing negotiations and for releasing the kidnapped people. According to the document, this was made clear by the position adopted by senators Bernardo Guerra Serna, Alberto Santopinio Botero, and Alvaro Uribe Velez; journalists Dartanan, Joaqueo, and Jaramillo; and the guerrilla coordinating board.

Fourth, the cartel is trying to promote the creation of a negotiating commission. This initiative has already been introduced by Conservative Party Representative Fabio Valencia Cozio.

Finally, according to intelligence services, in case of betrayal, The Extraditables are prepared to renew their guerrilla activities and are already creating groups with that in mind.

Ecuador

Congress Dismisses Supreme Court Judges

PA0510034590 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0239 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Quito, 4 October, (DPA)— The rift between the government branches seriously worsened today, threatening to create real institutional chaos in Ecuador when Congress decided to dismiss the members of the Supreme Court of Justice. The government immediately rejected the decision and announced that it will disavow that "illegal decision."

"The government unconditionally supports the justices who must freely exercise their duties," President Rodrigo Borja said in a communique made public tonight (local time) by the Presidency.

The plenum of the court, comprised of 15 judges, also rejected the decision of the congress, which is controlled by the extreme right and populist opposition. The plenum described the measure as "arbitrary and lacking legal grounds."

The judges also announced that they will remain in their posts "until the end of the period for which they were elected," in other words, until 10 August 1992, as Supreme Court President Walter Guerrero said.

Meanwhile, Congress President Averroes Bucaram announced that he will "immediately" call a special period of sessions to elect new judges to replace those that were removed today. According to the Constitution, the current regular period of sessions is scheduled to end on 9 October.

Paraguay

President Rodriguez Denies Rumors of Coup

PY0410151890 Asuncion RPC Television Network in Spanish 1449 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] This morning President Andres Rodriguez made an important statement regarding a series of persistent rumors. He first confirmed rumors on a brief uprising by low-ranking Army officers. He said that the incident was unimportant because it involved young officers who violated disciplinary rules and that no one had been arrested.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] There are rumors on the streets. We have questioned the corresponding authority on the subject. There are rumors that mid-level personnel—that is, middle-ranking military men—are currently confined to barracks or, better said, are under arrest because of an alleged uprising.

[Rodriguez] No. Imagine it, those reposible are mid-level personnel, only a few very new sergeants with less than two years seniority, sergeants who were being trained at the Noncommissioned and Sergeants School in Villa Hayes. There are no more than five officers, and they are being held under arrest only for some irresponsible attitude they had. But what can they do? You can rest assured that this—as we call it—irresponsible attitude of talking nonsense means nothing. That's all.

[Reporter] Do you have any names of people involved in this incident?

[Rodriguez] Nobody is involved in this issue.

[Reporter] A group of high-ranking Army officers?

[Rodriguez] No, this is why I am telling you that no notice should be paid to this issue. In other words it was just a matter of an irresponsible attitude which is characteristic of youth. You can check, and you will learn that they have not even completed two years of service. They have barely come out of the shell and already want to become another Mariscal Lopez [Paraguayan Military hero]. [end recording]

Former Foreign Minister Argana Disappears

PY0410150290 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Oct 90 p 5

[Text] The surprising absence of former foreign minister Luis Maria Argana from yesterday's aborted meeting of the Colorado Party executive board has fueled rumors indicating that his absence was due to the alleged arrest of military men. The rumors then gained impetus, and although no politician wanted to risk a comment, the affair of the military men was admitted.

It was also unofficially mentioned in the corridors of the House of the Colorados that the former foreign minister could be under arrest, linking him to the above-mentioned affair.

According to Colorado Senator Edgar L. Ynsfran, the official version on Argana's absence indicates that he could not preside over the board meeting because of personal problems. "Argana's relatives told me that he would not preside over the meeting and that he had asked me for permission not to attend," Ynsfran said. Ynsfran stated that the president of the ANR [National Republican Association] "is in the country," although he did not say where he was.

Ynsfran also indicated that he knew about the rumored arrest of Argana, indicating with a smile: "I cannot confirm that rumor."

In a telephone conversation, Argana's wife stressed that her husband had traveled to the United States and that "he will return without fail on 9 October." This report further increased speculation because it does not coincide with the version of Ynsfran, who indicated that Argana is in the country, intimating that he has health problems.

Finally, last night new rumors indicated that during the course of the afternoon, agents in civilian clothes had gone to Argana's home and arrested him. This rumor could not be confirmed, although the provoking fact is that when Argana's son, Deputy Nelson Argana, was asked about the whereabouts of his father, he said that he was also looking for him.

There has also been speculation that Argana was "invited" to leave the country by security forces because he was in some way linked to the arrested military men.

Argana's absence from the meeting of the executive board started rumors, fueled by contradictory reports of those who are close to him.

President Confirms Agrana in U.S.

PY0410162090 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television in Spanish 1520 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Regarding the rumors that are circulating, President Rodriguez has explained why [former foreign minister] Luis Maria Argana is absent.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr. President, for the past few days the head of the Colorado Party has not been

seen to carry out his daily activities, and rumors have spread that he has traveled abroad. What explanation can you give us?

[Rodriguez] I understand that he has traveled. His son had to be admitted to a clinic for a checkup, and he accompanied his son. That is all I can tell you. I do not even know what illness he has, nor why he is being admitted. The name of the son is Anastasio, and they went to the United States. [end recording]

ANR Issues Directorate on Argana

PY0510002490 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 2100 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] The National Republican Association [ANR—Colorado Party] has denied rumors on the situation of its president. The ANR Directorate has released a communique to clarify rumors on the whereabouts of Dr. Luis Maria Argana, who, according to the rumors, may have been arrested.

In view of the rumors that the president of the honorable government board has been arrested and out of respect for the public in general and party members in particular, we feel duty-bound to report that Dr. Luis Maria Argana has left the country for a short period of time, the communique says. It adds that Argana went abroad on Tuesday night, specifically to the United States.

As for the reasons for Argana's trip abroad, the ANR Directorate says that he left the country on personal business and that he will return this coming Saturday or Sunday.

President Andres Rodriguez himself told the press that Argana had gone abroad to accompany a son who is to undergo medical tests in the country to the north.

Argana Said 'Invited' To Leave

PY0510131690 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 5 Oct 90 p 8

[Excerpts] Yesterday official sources agreed in their reports that former Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana left for the United States at 1900 on 2 October on a LAP [Paraguayan Airlines] flight. Meanwhile, very diverse conjectures are being bandied about regarding a possible link between the acting ANR [National Republican Association—Colorado Party] president and an aborted uprising by several sergeants. The Orthodox [Colorado Party faction] absolutely deny this possibility. Notwithstanding that according to reports picked up by HOY, Argana was presumably "invited" to leave the country until the incident is cleared up. The ANR has released a communique. [passage omitted]

The astonishing "disappearance" of Argana gave rise to very diverse rumors, and as it coincides with an aborted uprising by several sergeants, the acting ANR president, who some months ago spoke about "conspiring and producing a revolution," was connected with the coup incident.

The fact that Argana was presumably "invited" to leave the country for awhile until the aborted uprising had been cleared up was one of the possibilities being evaluated yesterday. This argument is presumably based on the series of contradictions that occurred when Argana's relatives and Orthodox faction leaders tried to explain the politician's absence over the past few days.

The acting ANR president, who was last seen at party headquarters on 2 October, disappeared so suddenly that he did not even advise those close to him. A source close to the Orthodox politician told HOY: "Sudden disappearances are usual with him, but this time he really left us standing on the wrong foot." [passage omitted]

Army Commander Denies Arrest of Officers

PY0410140090 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Oct 90 p 11

[Text] Division General Ramon Humberto Garcete, commander of 1st Army Corps, stated yesterday that the alleged arrest of a group of Cavalry, Artillery, and Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers is not true. According to rumors, the detainees are lodged in Cerrito, in the Paraguayan Chaco. This disciplinary measure has allegedly been adopted following demands over promotions and salaries.

Division General Eumelio Bernal Gimenez, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, has indicated that there is absolutely nothing to this report. He then made it clear that he was not authorized to talk, and that an Armed Forces Information Office will be created to answer this type of question.

Peru

Shining Path's Propaganda Apparatus Caught

PY0510024090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0002 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Text] Lima, 4 Oct (EFE)—A communique issued by the Peruvian Interior Ministry reports that the main propaganda committee of the Peruvian Shining Path terrorist group—made up of doctors, psychologists, lawyers, and university professors—was arrested today.

The arrest of 35 people, whom the communique refers to as the "central propaganda apparatus," should be considered along with the arrests of 25 other scientists and intellectuals by the police two weeks ago. These people have also been accused of being part of the Shining Path ideological group.

The communique states that this "leading group" in subversive propaganda was responsible "for the planning, organization, and direction of efforts to recruit people and for conducting the terrorist organization's psychological campaign."

The communique does not specify when or where the alleged terrorists were arrested. According to the

national police, however, the previous arrests were carried out at the homes of the suspects.

"The Counterterrorism Division (Dircote) will place the 35 arrestees and the respective incriminating evidence at the disposal of the Lima prosecutor's office," the communique states.

The group of arrested professionals includes Linguistics College Director Guillermo Torero Fernandez, a former San Marcos University vice rector, and writer Miguel Gutierrez, a professor at the aforementioned college, along with other well-known Peruvian leftist poets and writers.

According to official sources, the Shining Path began its activities 10 years ago and has caused at least 21,000 deaths and direct property damage worth $18 billion, which is equivalent to 90 percent of Peru's foreign debt.

[Lima Television Peruana in Spanish at 0100 on 5 October carries a similar report but states that "16 terrorists were arrested" instead of 35. The report continues: "They were presented to reporters today along with the propaganda material that was seized.

"The 16 individuals indicted for terrorism are members of the Shining Path's central propaganda apparatus. Police presented them to reporters along with posters, photos, printing plates and machines, books, reports, booklets, ink, and rollers. All of this equipment was used to disseminate the Maoist doctrine.

"According to the chief in charge of the operations, the 16 terrorists are: Hugo Juarez Cruzat, or Ramiro Valdisanto Rejon, alias Ricardo; Vilma Aguilar Fajardo, alias Teresa or Dora; Claudia Beatriz Gamarra de Calensani; Hermejinda Castro Salazar de Castro; Alicia Gomez Infantes; Hugo Cesar Isaguirre Maguina; Luis Alberto Ramirez Aranda, or Juan Antonio Lopez Carlin; Elizabeth Clara Gonzalez Otoya Santiesteban; Hugo Ramirez Alcocer; Elena Soto Merino; (Oscar Piarrein Gavi Carrillo); David Basilio Principe Guzman; Fidel Leoncio Falian Cordoba; Rafael Lora Guon; Francisco Alejandro Barrientos Derrocal; Quiste Leonarda Castillo; and Torero Fernandez de Cordoba Alfredo Busto. The latter is a linguistics professor and vice rector at San Marcos University."]

Uruguay

Government Not To Send Troops to Gulf

PY0410210090 Montevideo LA HORA POPULAR in Spanish 28 Sep 90 p 4

[Text] President Luis Alberto Lacalle yesterday confirmed to IPS [Inter Press Service] that his administration will not send troops to the Persian Gulf.

Lacalle also said that Uruguay, which imports 100 percent of the oil it consumes, is in "a real national emergency situation" which has forced the government to transfer crude oil price increases to fuel prices.

The Uruguayan Government increased the price of gasoline by 44 percent on 1 October; according to some newspapers, further fuel price increases have not been ruled out.

Foreign Ministry sources stated that Uruguay "respects Argentina's decision to send troops to the Persian Gulf" since it is "a sovereign decision" of that country and "we are not supposed to analyze, praise, or criticize it."

On 25 September Argentina sent a destroyer and a corvette to the conflict zone to join the U.S. forces and those of other countries in the military siege of Iraq, which has been condemned internationally for invading Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Government To Propose Repurchase of Foreign Debt

PY0410172490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0119 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] New York, 3 Oct (EFE)—President Luis Alberto Lacalle today reported in New York that Uruguay will tell the creditor banks during the negotiations that will start tomorrow in New York that it wants to repurchase all of its foreign debt that is on offer.

After meeting with Citibank chief William Rhodes, who is chairman of the creditor banks organization, Lacalle expressed his hopes that the negotiation of the Uruguayan foreign debt will be finished by the end of the year with a "good solution."

In a speech to a group of businessmen and bankers at the (?Americas Society), Lacalle based his hopes on the fact that Uruguay has always honored its financial obligations and "has never been late" with payments on its debt.

Lacalle invited the businessmen to invest in Uruguay and explained that the congressional and governmental coalition between the ruling Blanco Party and the Colorado Party has allowed the government to draft a law, on which the Congress is ready to vote, that will change the state structure.

Another of the main changes that has occurred in Uruguay, he added, is the elimination of monopolies. This will improve the "competitiveness and effectiveness" of many public services.

Lacalle asserted that although adjustment plans are "painful," his administration has managed to reduce public expenses by 12 percent and said that it now has had a surplus in the fiscal accounts for six consecutive months.

"After putting our house in order," Lacalle said, "we now want investments through capitalization, nationalization, and good opportunities through projects such as free-trade zones."

"We have a very liberal law on free trade zones," Lacalle added. He said that, in view of its legal and traditional system, its democratic process, and its economic openness, Uruguay "is appealing" to investors.

Lacalle emphasized the creation, at the end of 1994, of a common market with Argentina and Paraguay, and added that such a market—consisting of 200 million people—could be a "very important economic influence" in the world.

He also pointed out the importance for the continent of the Initiative for the Americas, which was announced by U.S. President George Bush on 22 June. He urged the delegates to exert pressure on the U.S. Congress, which has a strong protectionist tendency, to approve the Initiative.

Congress can "make Bush's proposal for Latin America come true," he asserted.

Lacalle expressed his hope that the Uruguay Round of the GATT will end successfully. If it does not, however, "we will have to implement Bush's Initiative and create the southern cone common market," he added.

Guyana

Newspaper Urges Purification of Election Lists

FL0410140090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1252 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 4, CANA—Guyana's state-owned CHRONICLE newspaper has called on opposition parties here, and Guyanese generally, to help ensure that the voters' lists for the coming elections are "pure."

"We must all get involved. Let us encourage our friends, relatives, and neighbours to scrutinise these lists," the CHRONICLE said in an editorial. The comment focussed on Wednesday's announcement that the chairman of the Elections Commission has instructed the Commissioner of Registration to prepare and publish the preliminary lists of voters for the forthcoming elections.

The preparation of the voters' lists has become one of the most contentious issues here, with opposition parties saying it presents the Ruling People's National Congress (PNC) with opportunities for rigging the elections. In an apparent move to neutralise these allegations, the preliminary lists are being published earlier than usual.

"The putting up of these lists is in keeping with the democratic process. It is now up to individuals and political parties alike to ensure that all eligible persons are included," the CHRONICLE said. The paper continued: "Quite often, many of us become complacent and trust that our names will be on the lists. Complacency can be to our disadvantage since none of us will be allowed to vote if our names are excluded.

"We must also be vigilant to ensure that the names of those dead and of those who should not be included be removed from the lists. Nothing must be left to chance. Above all, the political parties which have, over the years, been critical of the lists, once more have every opportunity to ensure that these lists are pure."

The elections must be held by March 31, 1991 but President Desmond Hoyte has not yet announced the date. There is growing speculation here, however, that the elections will be held in December.

Carter To Confer With Election Organizers

FL0410143090 Bridgetown CANA in English 1306 GMT 4 Oct 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 4, CANA—Former United States President Jimmy Carter will be visiting Guyana next week. Carter arrives here October 13 on a two-day visit. The official Guyana Public Communications Agency (GPCA) said it is "in response to an invitation issued by President Desmond Hoyte for the Jimmy Carter Centre to send a mission to observe the forthcoming elections." While here, Carter will familiarise himself with Guyana's electoral system. He also plans to meet with leaders of the several parties expected to contest the elections, GPCA said.

In Washington, officials say that Carter will be preceded here next week by a mission from the International Foundation for Electoral Support. In addition to the Carter Centre, Hoyte has invited the Commonwealth to mount an observer mission to monitor the elections for which no date has been announced as yet but which must be held by the end of March next year.

A Commonwealth planning mission has already visited to prepare for the possible establishment of the observer team. Opposition parties, meanwhile, are advocating that several other overseas organisations be formally invited to monitor the elections and that their representatives be given official diplomatic status.

The opposition parties which have persistently accused the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) of rigging all four general elections here since 1968 are also demanding that there should be about 2,000 overseas observers to effectively monitor the elections. However, speaking to members and supporters of his party at a special party congress last weekend, Hoyte said he would not be inviting any other overseas observers.